

## Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY WARSAW PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAGR, EFIN, EEW, PL, US

SUBJECT: DAS LUERS MEETING WITH POLISH DEPUTY AGRICULTURE  
MINISTER ZAWODZINSKI

SUMMARY: ON JULY 11 DAS LUERS RECEIVED DEPUTY AGRICULTURE  
MINISTER ZAWODZINSKI FOR A GENERAL DISCUSSION OF U.S.-  
POLISH AGRICULTURAL COOPERATION. ZAWODZINSKI, WHO IS HERE  
AS LEADER OF THE POLISH DELEGATION TO THE JULY 10-11  
AGRICULTURAL WORKING GROUP TALKS, WAS ACCCOMPANIED BY  
AMBASSADOR SPASOWSKI. CONVERSATION FOCUSED ON EXPANSION  
OF U.S.-POLISH AGRICULTURAL TRADE AND BROADER ACCESS TO  
U.S. MARKETS; FUTURE OF TECHNOLOGICAL COOPERATION; CCC  
CREDITS; POLAND'S NEED FOR INCREASED CONTACTS WITH U.S.  
PRIVATE CORPORATIONS. END SUMMARY.

1. MR. ZAWODZINSKI EXPRESSED SATISFACTION AT THE PROGRESS  
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ACHIEVED IN THE JOINT-WORKING GROUP TALKS. HE STATED,  
HOWEVER, THAT THERE IS "ALWAYS ROOM FOR IMPROVED COOPERA-  
TION."

HE PREDICTED THIS YEAR'S HARVESTS WOULD BE SOMEWHAT  
BETTER THAN LAST YEAR'S DISASTER BUT STRESSED THAT POLAND  
WOULD CONTINUE TO DEPEND ON IMPORTS OF GRAIN/FODDER. HE

REITERATED POLAND'S UNHAPPINESS WITH THE NATURE OF CCC

TERMS AND HOPED THAT THESE COULD BE MADE MORE ATTRACTIVE  
IN THE FUTURE.

2. BOTH ZAWODZINSKI AND AMBASSADOR SPASOWSKI STRESSED  
THE IMPORTANCE OF AGRICULTURAL POLICY IN U.S.-POLISH  
RELATIONS, CITING SEVERAL KEY PROBLEMS.

A. TRADE/MARKET ACCESS. ZAWODZINSKI INDICATED THAT U.S.  
PROTECTIONIST TENDENCIES DO NOT REALLY AFFECT POLISH  
AGRICULTURAL EXPORTS, BUT HE NEVERTHELESS STRESSED THE  
NEED TO EXPAND SALES TO THE U.S.

B. SCIENTIFIC/TECHNOLOGICAL COOPERATION. ZAWODZINSKI  
NOTED THAT, BECAUSE PL-480 FINANCING IS ABOUT TO RUN OUT,  
IT IS TIME TO THINK ABOUT FUTURE MEANS TO CONTINUE AND  
EXPAND COOPERATION.

C. GRAIN TRADE. EVEN WITH EXPECTED FUTURE INCREASE IN  
POLISH HARVESTS OF GRAIN AND FODDER, POLAND WOULD CONTINUE  
TO PURCHASE SUBSTANTIAL AMOUNTS FROM THE U.S. CONSEQUENTLY  
ZAWODZINSKI OBSERVED POLAND WOULD CONTINUE TO BE INTERES-  
TED IN CREDITS, BUT HE WARNED THAT UNLESS CCC TERMS ARE  
IMPROVED, THESE CREDIT ARRANGEMENTS COULD CEASE TO BE  
ATTRACTIVE TO POLAND BECAUSE OF THE IMBALANCE BETWEEN  
  
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IMPORTS AND CREDITS.

D. COOPERATION WITH PRIVATE FIRMS. BOTH ZAWODZINSKI AND  
THE AMBASSADOR STRESSED AN INTENTION TO SEEK OPPORTUNITIES  
FOR COOPERATIVE VENTURES WITH U.S. FIRMS.

3. MR. LUERS RESPONDED OPTIMISTICALLY ON THE PROSPECT  
OF PINPOINTING SPECIFIC MARKETS FOR POLISH EXPORTS. HE  
EXPRESSED THE DEPARTMENT'S WILLINGNESS TO COOPERATE IN  
THIS AND IN PROMOTING AGRICULTURAL TRAINING PROGRAMS  
WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT'S CAPABILITY. LUERS ALSO SYMPA-  
THIZED WITH POLISH FRUSTRATION REGARDING IMPROVEMENT OF  
CCC CREDIT TERMS, BUT HE REITERATED THAT CONGRESS DOES  
NOT SEEM INCLINED TO CHANGE THE CURRENT CONDITIONS  
WITHIN THE NEAR FUTURE.

4. LUERS LAUDED IDEA OF POLAND'S SEEKING INCREASED  
CONTACTS WITH PRIVATE U.S. FIRMS SUCH AS THE FMC. HE  
EXPRESSED STATE'S WILLINGNESS TO ASSIST AS APPROPRIATE.  
ZAWODZINSKI EMPHASIZED THE ANTICIPATED CONCRETE NATURE  
OF THEIR TALKS WITH FMC IN CHICAGO LATER THIS WEEK.  
LUERS, EXPRESSING SUPPORT OF THIS, ALSO POINTED TO A

NEED FOR THE POLES TO CONTACT ANY AND ALL AMERICAN FIRMS  
WHICH MIGHT HAVE AN INTEREST IN COOPERATIVE VENTURES

WITH POLAND.

5. COMMENT: THE POLES FINALLY SEEMED TO HAVE ACCEPTED  
THAT THERE IS NO HOPE FOR REVISION OF THE CURRENT CCC  
TERMS. WHILE THEY REMAIN INTERESTED IN ESTABLISHING  
IMPROVED CREDIT CONDITIONS FOR THE FUTURE, THEY ARE ALSO  
EMPHASIZING THE NEED FOR A RE-VITALIZATION OF U.S.-POLISH  
ECONOMIC COOPERATION AND JOINT-SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION.  
CHRISTOPHER

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